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UP FRONT

Provincial government seeks input on curriculum redevelopment... Page 3

SPORTS

Micro Novice Avalanche hosts tourney on Hockey Day in Canada... Page 8



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Vol. 39 No. 6

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

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WINTER WALKERS – Students, staff and volunteers poured out of Elk Point Elementary School just before lunch hour on Wednesday, Feb 5 to walk around the block to the south of the school as part of Winter Walk Day, a provincial initiative to encourage Albertans to participate in regular winter outdoor activities. Last year about 100,000 people took part in Winter Walk Day with events across the province.

Chamber executive back for another year

VICKI BROOKER
 Review Staff

Elk Point and District Chamber of Commerce members voted to retain their 2019 executive for another year at last Wednesday's Annual General Meeting, and added three new subcommittees to their lineup.

Terri Hampson will once again lead the organization as president, with Nathan Parsons returned as vice president, Christine Fenton as treasurer and Vicki Brooker as secretary. Shirley Harms is the new chair of the chamber's Economic Development committee, while Brooker will stay on as Tourism chair.

Hampson retains her post as chair of the Membership committee and will also chair the Special Events committee, which now has three branches. She will head the planning committee for the 2020 Spring Fling, Penny Fox the committee for Small Business Week and

Awards of Excellence, and Brooker and Parsons the Christmas Extravaganza committee.

In her President's Report on the previous year, Hampson thanked the membership for their ongoing support, for their attendance at meetings and their support of the chamber's initiative to pay down the EcoCentre loan, as well as for keeping the chamber visible in the community.

Treasurer Fenton gave the financial report, showing the annual operating grants from the Town of Elk Point and County of St. Paul, and putting the chamber in a financial position for a good year to come.

Membership fees of \$100 per year for businesses with three or more employees and \$50 for businesses with two or fewer employees or for service groups were set for 2021, and meeting dates of the first Wednesday of each month will also stay unchanged, although the time of meetings was discussed at some

length. It was agreed that next year's annual meeting will be a supper meeting, and that the president will work on plans for quarterly evening meetings throughout the year, in hopes of bringing out members who are unable to attend the noon meetings.

Regular meeting

The AGM was followed by the regular February meeting, where members learned that the EcoCentre loan principal has dropped by an encouraging \$7,467.77 since this time last year, despite substantial expenses for upkeep on the building.

Hampson displayed three entries in the chamber logo contest, but none were quite what everyone wanted. She will ask one of the entrants to revise that entry, in hopes that it will fit in with the members' expectations.

The Business Talk portion of the meeting centered largely around policing statistics, with crime numbers decreasing, and arrests increasing, pos-

sibly because "People are calling and the RCMP are catching more," Hampson said. "The police are doing their job and the courts aren't," she said, adding that Sgt. Dave Henry intends to have another town hall meeting in the near future.

She added that Lakeland Cannabis has launched a new website accepting investors.

The president had big news for members in the Events Talk session, announcing that the Spring Fling Wrestling will take place on Saturday, May 3. Exploring potential wrestling groups, she and Elk Point's volunteer 'wrestling commissioner' Brian Poitras traveled to Edmonton to check out the Prairie Wrestling Alliance, and were impressed with the show. This group rarely performs outside Edmonton and should bring in another excellent crowd that will once again help the chamber to pay down the loan.

(Continued on page 2)

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Chamber

(Continued from page 1)

Round Table

Town of Elk Point CAO Ken Gwozdz reported that he and Crystal Pinette have been assisting two local clubs with grant applications. Installation of electronic water meters that can be read as town staff drive by is now underway and should be completed this month. The town's new website is progressing well.

Cristin Tchir said the Recreation Board has booked an Escape Room for March 27, and received the chamber's approval to park it at the Eco Centre.

Jennifer Dallaire thanked the chamber and town for promoting the Servus Credit Union's retirement information seminar, which had 18 attendees. More seminars are coming up, she added.

Play2Learn Daycare is providing a series of free educational sessions for parents, with programs on parenting and nutrition already completed and two on emotional regulation and "picky eaters" coming up this week, with another series later in the year, Melanie Poulin said.

The is "not much movement" in residential real estate, Desiree Maas said, with 55 residences and 25 non-residential properties currently listed, while rentals are 25 per cent vacant.

Elk Point FCSS has a session on depression and mental health coming up Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. at the Seniors Recreation Centre, and Greater Lakeland Rural Crime Watch has their AGM on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. at the County of St. Paul office in St. Paul, Hampson added.



CNRL SUPPORTS CURLING CLUB – Canadian Natural Resources representatives (left to right) Kendall Zarowny, Carrie Baumgardner and Calvin Fisher presented Elk Point Curling Club president Curtis Porcina with a \$5,000 donation last week, to assist the club with upgrades of the facility. Baumgardner said she was impressed with the club's 25 per cent increase in membership this year and is especially pleased to see the growing interest in the sport among Elk Point youth.

Elk Point woman dies in crash outside Bonnyville

MEAGAN MACEACHRAN
Review Contributor

A 38-year-old Elk Point female was pronounced dead at the scene of Friday's multi-vehicle collision outside of Bonnyville.

On Feb. 7, at approximately 7:45 a.m., Bonnyville RCMP responded to a report of a three vehicle crash on Hwy. 28 near Twp. Rd. 604, southwest of town.

An investigation into the collision revealed an SUV travelling eastbound collided with a car headed westbound on Hwy. 28. A second vehicle driving westbound then collided with the two vehicles, resulting in the death of one person, and injuries to two others.

The driver of the SUV, a 38-year-old Elk Point woman, was pronounced dead at the scene. The lone occupant of the first car suffered serious, life-threatening injuries and was taken to a nearby hospital before being airlifted to Edmonton by STARS Air Ambulance.

The male driver, who was the only person in the third car involved, was taken by ambulance to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Traffic was diverted for several hours as a result of the collision while police investigated, however, has since been reopened.

Police noted icy road conditions were reported at the time of the collision and RCMP continue to investigate.

LARA hosts producers at Appreciation Night

RUSHANTHI KESUNATHAN
Review Contributor

The 11th annual Farmer's Appreciation Night saw about 300 local producers gather as the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) thanked them for their hard work and continued support.

LARA treated its guests with a warm supper and entertainment on Feb. 7, as well as recognizing some of its board members. The organization is an applied agricultural research association that serves the M.D. of Bonnyville, County of St. Paul, Smoky Lake County and Lac La Biche County. It is a member of the Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta.

"Because we are a non-profit, we are run by producers and this event is a thank-you for our producers," Alyssa Krawchuk, LARA's manager said. "The support that we get from our local producers continues to drive us toward our research."

The night also included entertainment by mentalist Louis Pezzani, performing mind magic.

Ulf Herde, who attended Friday's supper and entertainment, has been farming in the Ardmore area for almost 30 years.

"I've come to every one of these for the last 11 years because it's great visiting time and socializing, and it's a good day to highlight agriculture," Herde said.

"When I started, I used to be like everyone else, make my own hay and feed it out to the cattle all winter," he said. "But now I've gone to a more grazing program... grazing corn for the winter."

Also joining a crowd of laughing producers at the RCMP Hall in Glendon was the reeve of the M.D. of Bonnyville and farmer, Greg Sawchuk.

He agreed with Herde's sentiments on why the event is important. "It's a good chance for these folks to socialize, we don't get a lot of chances to meet each other unless we meet each other on the road," Sawchuk said.

A concern many farmers shared this past harvest season was the delay in getting crops off the field due to wet weather and early snow. According to Krawchuk, this is the fourth consecutive year where bad weather has delayed harvest.

According to Charlie Leskiw, a farmer representative on the LARA board from the County of Smoky Lake, "As a result of the above normal precipitation, the protein content of the wheat was somewhat lower than average, which eventually becomes a factor in the grading of the crops and what we receive in value."

In November, un-harvested fields and poor crop quality caused the County of St. Paul to declare an agricultural disaster.



FARMERS' NIGHT OUT - About 300 local producers took in the Farmer's Appreciation Night in Glendon, hosted by LARA on Feb. 7, including M.D. of Bonnyville Reeve Greg Sawchuk.

Rushanthi Kesunathan photo



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Government looking for input from Albertans on curriculum redevelopment

More life skills should be taught in schools, say locals

RUSHANTHI KESUNATHAN
Review Contributor

Last month, the Government of Alberta offered an update on curriculum redevelopment that is taking place, and has launched an online survey to allow for Albertans to have input on the topic.

The St. Paul Journal reached out to readers through its Facebook page, asking what they felt students should be learning.

A number of locals say they want school curriculum to include more basic life skills, while some stated they felt there should be more emphasis on indigenous history, and others called for more life skills programs.

April Berard wants her "future graduate" to learn how to budget, do taxes, and learn more land based education, mental health awareness and basic mechanics.

"I would feel better about my future graduate entering the 'real world'

equipped with the skills necessary to thrive," Berard commented. "A lot of basic life skills are taught at home, however not all students are fortunate to have those supports at home."

Students should not be taught how to be great test takers, they should be taught how to survive in the real world after high school, commented Samson Houle, adding, every school should implement more life learning skills learning, as "most students do not go into post-secondary education."

Another commenter, Mark Béland, thinks the system is doing reasonably well, but could include more technology based classes and basic software development.

Modernizing student learning

An advisory panel appointed by government is providing recommendations for curriculum and has drafted a new vision for student learning. A new online survey is available until Feb. 24 for

Albertans to provide input on recommendations and feedback on the draft vision for student learning.

Some highlights from the report include ensuring the curriculum remains free from the prescription of pedagogical approaches, like discovery math, addressing financial literacy, work readiness, wellness and goal-setting to enhance students' life skills, providing students with work-integrated learning opportunities, and ensuring First Nations, Metis and Inuit learnings continue to be reflected in the curriculum, according to a government news release dated Jan. 29.

"We recognize that all our students need an education that ensures they thrive in an environment of rapid economic, social and global change," Angus McBeath, chair, curriculum advisory panel, said in the release. "While there are elements of the draft K-12 curriculum that serve us well, there is room for improvement."

St. Paul Education is excited about an updated curriculum in all subject areas and curriculum redevelopment has been on the provincial radar for the past 10 years, said St. Paul Education Regional Division Board Chair Heather Starosielski.

St. Paul Education follows the provincially set curriculum and ensures educational outcomes are met accordingly, explained Starosielski.

"All Albertans should take part in this survey (as) everyone's input is valuable to ensure we are providing the best educational foundation for all students that is built on essential skills and knowledge to ensure lifelong success," Starosielski added.

The results of the survey and feedback collected on the draft vision will help guide the government's in updating the curriculum.

The survey is available at <https://www.learnalberta.ca/content/survey2020/index.html>

Ideas come forward for Canada Day

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

With many of the details already nailed down, Elk Point Canada Day Committee is still adding new ideas at each monthly meeting for activities that will be enjoyed by the whole family.

Country singer and songwriter Ryan Lindsay will be this year's main stage headliner, providing three 45-minute sets during the afternoon show, with plans firming up for other attractions such as the pie eating contest, which proved to be a huge hit last year.

Another huge hit was the High Striker, and its popularity led the committee to attempt to purchase one of its own, to alleviate the yearly chore of transporting it to and from Elk Point from Edmonton. This could be a reality if sponsorship for its purchase is obtained, with the committee planning to decorate the game with the sponsors' logos in appreciation.

Face painting is always a popular attraction, but sometimes brings long lineups, and it has been suggested that more painters and more simple designs

might be the answer. Committee secretary-treasurer Cristin Tchir was asked to seek out affordable options.

A brand-new idea borrowed from another community's annual celebration was put forward by committee chair Sherry Oszust, who said a pile of sand seeded with loonies was a big drawing card for the children at that event. Others who had seen similar 'money pits' at other events agreed that this would be a great addition and will be taken to the Town of Elk Point's upcoming Public Works meeting for their input. It was also noted that last year's penny-carnival-type games were popular with the youngsters, and the committee will check with the group that hosted the attraction last year to see if it could go back on the program.

One attraction from recent years will not be in the lineup. Last year's cold and rainy day meant the dunk tank could not be put to use, despite being rented and hauled, disappointing both to the committee and the group that had planned to use it as a fundraiser.

The committee's next meeting is slated for Tuesday, March 3.

Peewee Avs to play in winterland

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point Peewee Avalanche will be part of this weekend's Winterland Invitational Hockey Tournament, in support of Ronald McDonald House Charities. The Avalanche will play at home on Friday at 4:45 p.m. against Glendon 2. Their other games will be held in Bonnyville

on Saturday at 11:15 a.m. versus the Edmonton 289 Hawks and in Glendon at 8 a.m. Sunday against the Sherwood Park Generals. Elk Point will host the Pool G Final at 12:45 p.m. on Sunday.

A total of 16 peewee teams in four pools are part of the tournament, along with 20 atom teams in five pools, with games all weekend in Glendon, Bonnyville and Elk Point.



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EDITORIAL

Happy Family Day

This coming Monday is Family Day, and the 30th anniversary of the first time this holiday was observed. It was established by then-Premier Don Getty in an attempt to counteract the erosion of family values in Canadian society, and instead to reflect the values of home and family that were important to the pioneers who founded the province, as well as giving workers a day off to spend with their families.

Alberta's observance was joined by Saskatchewan in 2007, Ontario in 2008, British Columbia in 2013 and most recently, New Brunswick in 2018.

Whether or not the holiday has counteracted the erosion of family values, it definitely has given many families a day to spend together, that they might not have otherwise had, due to work schedules, minor sports and today's accelerated lifestyle. Family values have undergone changes over three decades, and some of those changes are for the better, so possibly that long ago politician's decree has helped to remind us all of the importance of the family unit.

Have a great Family Day, everyone!

STAY SAFE

Ways to avoid distracted driving

ALBERTA RCMP
Review Contributor

Distracted driving limits a driver's ability to focus on the driving task and road conditions. Distracted driving behaviours include talking on a cell phone, texting, reading a book, eating, attending to other passengers or pets and personal grooming.

Alberta RCMP encourages you to practice the following tips to avoid distracted driving:

- Finish grooming before leaving home. Do not comb your hair, shave or apply make-up while driving.
- Pre-set the temperature, GPS, radio or music. Do not make adjustments unless the vehicle is stopped.
- Leave early for extra travel time. Know the itinerary and do not attempt to read a map while driving.

"Research shows that distracted driving plays a role in 20 to 30 per cent of all collisions," says Supt. Rick Gardner, Alberta Sheriffs. "Traffic safety is a shared responsibility: make sure you are always prepared for the unexpected actions of other motorists or poor driving conditions. Most importantly, never use your handheld wireless electronic device while driving."

"In 2019, there were over 9,000 people charged with distracted driving offences in Alberta RCMP jurisdictions. The numbers are still too high," says Supt. Gary Graham, Alberta RCMP Traffic Services. "If you have to make a call, eat, read, take notes or engage in another distracting activity, make sure you pull over to do it safely. Distracted driving behaviours increase driver errors and, as a result, put your safety and the safety of other road users at risk."

The Alberta RCMP will continue to work with Alberta Sheriffs and other law enforcement and safety partners to ensure Albertans make the right driving decisions and reduce the number of collisions in the province. Follow our traffic safety tips on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta and Twitter @RCMPAlberta.

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.



WAY BACK WHEN...

Impact assesement, ratepayer protest, third generation president

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 11 IN...

1985

The Community Impact Assessment Committee, chaired by June Stone, celebrated completion of their seven-month project, which resulted in what Northern Alberta Development Council's Rick Sloan called "One of the most positive studies I've been involved with." The Town of Elk Point and Alberta Transportation met to discuss the widening of Highway 41 through Elk Point.

1990

Larry Pearson of Alberta Culture Historic Sites displayed plans for development of the Fort George and Buckingham House historic site at the chamber of commerce annual meeting, where Millie Orr was voted in as president, Dave Yake as vice president, Mark Wilson as treasurer and Vicki Brooker as secretary. Elk Point and District Agricultural Society voted to withdraw their offer to purchase 35 acres of land in Elk Point's north subdivision for an agricultural pavilion and fair grounds after 17 ratepayers showed up to protest the sale and presented a 200-signature petition against the development.

1995

Close to 300 concerned district residents packed the Seniors' Recreation Centre in response to a draft paper on health care delivery in the Lakeland Health Region that listed Elk Point among 10 hospitals slated to change from acute care facilities to community health centres. F. G. Miller Senior Girls Crusaders basketball team was on a 22-game winning streak, with coach Ray Danyluk calling them "a balanced team and a good bench, a team that is a pleasure to coach."

2000

The 17th Annual Elk Point Oilmen's Bonspiel came to an abrupt halt when a Freon leak softened the ice, with only the Grand Challenge event, where Roger Van

Den Bossche and his Reid's Welding rink defeated Bar Engineering, being able to complete their final game. A third generation president was elected at the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce annual meeting, Eugene Buck following in the footsteps of his father Ed, who led the group in the late 1980s, and his maternal grandfather, Eugene McDonnell, who was the chamber's founding president in 1938.

2005

F. G. Miller High School welcomed a long awaited group of French Exchange participants from St. Charles École Secondaire in Pont-Rouge, Québec as they arrived for a six-day Alberta experience. When not a single ticket was sold for the "From the Heart" Valentine's dinner, the organizers switched to Plan "B" and agreed to go ahead with the jamboree part of the program, designed to raise funds for the Canadian Red Cross Tsunami Relief Fund.

2010

Leonard Gadowski's hopes to gain the title of the skip with the most grand challenge wins to his credit were nipped in the bud when Steve Penz and the E-Can Oilfield Services rink defeated them in their first game at the Oilmen's Bonspiel, sending Gadowski to the D Event and starting Penz on his way to the championship title. A musty-eyed Doug Bassett was named 2010 Oilman of the Year at the bonspiel banquet, where longtime friend George Hahn presented him with a trophy topped with a golden drilling rig.

2015

Elk Point and District Chamber of Commerce members elected a new president, Jonny Nielsen, who served as acting president for much of the 2003-04 term, was replacing Debra McQuinn, who chose not to seek reelection. The balance of the executive, vice-president Dwayne Yaremkevich, treasurer Geoff Hyslop and secretary Vicki Brooker, were returned to their positions by acclamation.

ELK POINT REVIEW

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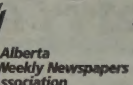
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Canada



QOVC QUILTERS who attended the Elk Point retreat were, back row, left to right: Dianne Hassan, Misty Smereka, Debra Schneider; middle row, left to right: Gloria Zacharuk, Angie Duncan, Carol Zarowny, Shaylynn Nydokus, Maggie Olson, Vitaline Dubrue; front, left to right, Elizabeth McNernie, Carol Dixon, and (not shown) behind the camera in her favourite place, Kathy Handford.



CHEERFUL COLORS such as were used on this quilt top helped to brighten up a stormy Saturday.

Kathy Handford photo

Rain, snow... and quilting for QOVC

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

It takes more than difficult weather to discourage determined quilters on a mission.

On Saturday, Feb. 1, twelve ladies arrived at the United Building in Elk Point armed with all their sewing equipment to take part in the Quilts of Valour Canada (QOVC) National Sew Day, doing their part to help that nationwide group to reach its ambitious goal of reaching a total of 20,000 quilts.

Since 2006, approximately 14,000 quilts have been presented to veterans and to serving members of the Canadian Forces who are managing illness or injury. With only 6,000 quilts to go to reach that total, and volunteers like these sewing at retreats across the country, that goal doesn't seem farfetched at all.

"It was a good day, despite sewers arriving in the rain and getting in the building before it turned to ice," organizer Kathy Handford said. "It was kind of nice to be inside watching the snow fall, and hoping it would quit before we had to go home."

This was the first QOVC retreat to be held in Elk Point and St. Paul area, and the United Building is located in part of the former Elk Point United Church building, where Misty Smereka operates Sew Heavenly Quilting. "Misty was willing to do a sleepover for all of us, but she wasn't sure about (her husband) Tim cooking breakfast for all of us," Handford said.

However, the snow stopped in time, highways were plowed and sanded, and the sleepover was not necessary.

"All the ladies had a great time, and for some reason, the seam ripper chair never got used," Handford reports. "Twelve quilts were started, and one was completely finished. The rest are in progress and will be finished shortly." Other quilters, including Laverne Wright, who weren't able to attend the retreat are working on their quilts at home, she noted.

Those who attended the retreat enjoyed cinnamon buns donated by Golden Loaf Bakery and entered their names for a door prize of a quilt donated by Pat Allen. Sunshine Quilters donated fabric to be used in some of the quilts.

Sewing for charity, whether local or Canada-wide, gives participants "a nice feeling," Handford says, "it's sharing hugs and the satisfaction we all get from doing it."

A quilter further afield answered the question on QOV's Facebook page, "Why do you sew for Quilts of Valour?" by saying, "It is such a worthy cause, and when you read the thank you from a soldier that has been wrapped in a quilt, thanking them for their service and giving them a quilted hug, they are so very grateful and thankful to the quilters across the country. Many are moved to tears and I know of a few of them who have jumped on board and offered to do presentations to their military brothers and sisters because they want them to also experience the love in a quilted hug."

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RECREATION CORNER

Have you heard about the Free Family Fun Day!

CRISTIN TCHIR
Recreation Coordinator

This coming Monday, Feb. 17, the Town of Elk Point will be hosting an afternoon of free family fun at the A.G Ross Arena! Everything is FREE! Come on out and enjoy some skating, and when you're done burning off a few calories, you can fill up on hamburgers

and hot dogs. Don't worry about bringing your wallet, because everything is free! Not into skating? That is okay, just bring the family down for a free lunch. ECDC will be providing a face painter for the day as well!

A huge thank you to the Elk Point Co-op, they have generously sponsored this event, you will not leave hungry. Events will run from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00

p.m., and we hope to see you there!

It will be a busy weekend at the arena, volunteers are still needed to fill booth shifts for the Ronald McDonald House Charities Winterland Invitational Hockey Tournament, Feb. 14 to 16. Please contact Melissa 780-205-1477 if you can lend some time to this great cause, it's also free to help out, doesn't cost a thing, just a few hours are needed.

In other news, the Recreation Committee needs members. If you want to get involved in your community, this is a great way, it's not a big commitment, meetings are only once a month and volunteer commitment is very minimal. Got questions? Email recreation@elkpoint.ca. I hope to see some new faces!

From the Hack



TEAM PINDER includes, left to right: Dwayne Vogel, Daleen Pinder, Dustin Pinder, Lane Lorenson and (not shown) Dale and Dason Pinder.

Joanne Warawa photo



TEAM SMERDIXEN is made up of, left to right: Marty Bendixen, Candi Bendixen, Carrie Baumgartner and Tim Smereka.

Joanne Warawa photo

JOANNE WARAWA
Elk Point Curling Club

It's hard to believe there are only two weeks left before playoffs start. This week we are highlighting two of our mixed league teams.

The first is the Pinder rink, consisting of Dale and Daleen Pinder, their two boys Dustin and Dason, Dwayne Vogel and Lane Lorenson. They are a new

team this year so although they aren't at the top of the leader board, they are always smiling, improving and having fun! Dustin, who graduates this year, curled with the high school teams in past years and Dason, who is in Grade 5, curls in the kids' curling program and goes to every bonspiel he can.

The second team we are highlighting is the Smerdixen rink, skipped by Tim Smereka, third Marty Bendixen, second Carrie Baumgartner and lead Candi

Bendixen. This is their second year together as a team and they are currently sitting near the top of the B pool, chasing a couple more wins to break into the A Pool. They also get some help from Georgia Bendixen once in a while, who is graduating this year but curled with the high school in past years as well.

Games are 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. every Wednesday - everyone is welcome to come watch!

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IS NEWS YOUR GIG?

Shootin' the Breeze has a full-time position open for a weekly newspaper reporter in Pincher Creek, AB. For job description and details, please contact Shannon; publisher@shootinthebreeze.ca.

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Announcements

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 By all of your
 loving Family.



HAPPY TO HELP OTHERS
 - The Elk Point Baptist Church youth group went door-to-door in northern Elk Point on Friday night collecting food for the St. Paul and District Food Bank. Food will be delivered to St. Paul early this week! Thank you so much to the community for their generosity.

Submitted photo

Playoffs end for Elks, Two Hills and Dewberry

VICKI BROOKER
 Review Staff

It was crunch time for the Elk Point Elks on Friday night, when their SaskAlta Hockey League playoffs came to an abrupt in St. Walburg with a devastating 8-2 loss to the Eagles.

The first period showed the two teams on an even keel, Christian Nypower answering an Eagles goal in only a minute and two seconds, assisted by Myles Whitford, and the teams going

to their dressing rooms with a 1-1 tie.

The second period was a whole different story, with St. Walburg ramming in four goals in the first half of the frame, before Whitford scored off assists by Nypower and Jean-Guy Boisvert, with the home team adding another pair to extend their lead to 8-2.

The third period was scoreless, but riddled with penalties for both teams.

Both the Eagles and Hillmond

Hitmen, who took on Two Hills in the league's first playoff series, wrapped up their series in three games straight, with Two Hills losing their first two games in overtime.

The other two matchups went all the way to a fifth game overtime.

Wainwright Rustlers won both Friday's and Saturday's games over Lashburn Flyers, the two teams each ending up with two wins, a loss and an overtime loss. Dewberry Mustangs also won on

both Friday and Saturday night over Meadow Lake Broncos, both adding up to with two wins and two losses. Both pairs faced off in fifth game on Sunday, with Wainwright defeating Lashburn 5-4 in overtime and Meadow Lake also edging out Dewberry 4-3 in overtime.

The Wainwright victory put them at the head of the playoff standings with seven points, with St. Walburg, Hillmond, Meadow Lake and Lashburn all collecting six points in the series.

Micro Novice tournament celebrates Hockey Day in Canada

What better way to spend Hockey Day in Canada than down at the rink? The Micro Novice parents and players did just that hosting an eight-team tournament for the little guys. I bet they were happy to go home though, when it was over, and could give their feet a rest after working all day at the concession and the raffle table.



'the Hawk' Ockerman and 'Wild Wyatt' Fontaine scoring. Coming home to play on Thursday night down a goal, the Avalanche seemed a little more desperate than the Tigers and put 10 shots on net in the first period, compared to the Tigers' four shots. And the extra effort paid off when they scored the first goal late in the first period to tie the series. This wasn't just a fluke one either. It was a shorthanded goal, 'Without a Trace' Morgan finding the back of the net, assisted by Jaxon 'Smitty' Smith. Instead of holding back on the defensive killing the penalty, the long legged 'Smitty' decided to run with it and so did his little sidekick Trace, who was in the right place at the right time, putting one into the twine! After two periods the series was still tied, 'Free Willy' Braylee Lesyk and Remington 'Steel' Reynolds both scor-

doug
BASSETT
Review Sports

These little guys remind me of bumper cars. Playing on the half ice, they can't get too revved up and hurt each other, most of them just putting along doing their own thing. Hockey at this level is all about having fun and the Micro Novice kids and parents certainly know how to do that. Usually the kids are more interested in what kind of snack their grandparents are going to buy after the game then worrying about who scored or who won the game. Great



TALKING STRATEGY on the Avalanche bench.

Photo submitted



ELK POINT MICRO NOVICE AVALANCHE hosted Saturday's tournament.

Photo submitted

job by all the parents, who deserved a big pat on the back and the rest of the weekend off after hosting this event.

I always liked being down by a goal, rather than up by one or two goals, in a two game, total point series in the second game. It's easier as a coach to motivate your team to battle hard when they know they have to. One or two goals are OK, not more than two. It worked this past week for the Atom Avalanche provincial team. In the first game of the two game, total point series, the Avalanche lost to the Vermilion Tigers on this past Tuesday night in Vermilion 4 to 3, 'Notorious Nolan' Ballas, Kale

ing one on the power play in the second period, but the Tigers replied with two of their own to keep the series tied after 40 minutes. The tension in the building was getting intense. The winner was going on to the next round, the losers going home. Half way through the third period, scoring his second goal of the game, 'Without a Trace' on the power play assisted by 'Wild Wyatt' and 'Notorious Nolan' giving the Avalanche the one goal lead. Then late in the third period, 'Free Willy' would hit the ocean, going coast to coast, adding two more goals, both of them unassisted, giving him a hat trick and capping of the even-

ing with the 6 to 2 win. The Avalanche are moving on now to the second round against St. Paul. The second game of that series will be on tonight at the 6:45 at the A. G. Ross Arena.

Just like a big snowball rolling down a mountain, the Bantam Avalanche keeps rolling over teams. This past Saturday night they defeated the Vermilion Tigers 13 to 0. Another shutout for goalie Vanden 'Super Mario' Moroziuk: I have lost count on how many shutouts he has had this year, but it's likely seven or eight by now. A Brady Bunch of goals for Brady 'Bionic Man' Hymanyk who played a heck of a game, scoring a hat trick. Five goals for

his wing man 'Bo Diddley' Fontaine, Brendon 'Blue Line' Haesch with the other goal, assisted by his defensive partner 'Hurricane Kayl' Warawa. On Sunday, the Pee wee team was on the road to Glendon, playing another really tight game and winning this one 3 to 2. Towering winger Timmy 'the Freight Train' Cardinal staying on the track with the first goal, assisted by speedy center man Kaleb 'Formula One' Flamand, Gavin 'Green Light' Kadutski, going full out scoring the second assisted by Madden 'Mad Dog' Flamand. Team captain Brendon 'Blue Line' Haesch with the winner, his assisted by the set up man 'Bo Diddley' Fontaine.



AND WHEN THE GAME'S OVER, it's time to shake hands.

Photo submitted



MICRO NOVICE TOURNAMENT 2020 was fun for all the youngest hockey players in the area.

Photo submitted

the league leader 'Mick Jager' Fontaine, Dean 'the Machine' Ockerman, Seth 'Motorman' Morton, Landon 'the Magnificent' Malachowski, Josef 'the Red' Theriault, Kade 'the Kid' Fontaine and Cea Jay 'Quick Draw' Quinney were on the board with one goal each, Sam 'Spiderman' Rogal, Ryan 'Ram Rod' Cameron and Wyatt 'Wild Thing' Pavoll supplying some of the assists.

I'm not sure if this was planned or not? But a lot of the parents do have kids on both the Bantam and Pee wee teams, so maybe it was. At the same time as the Bantam game was going on, in the other rink that is attached, the Pee wee Avalanche also played against the Vermilion Tigers on Saturday. Their game was a much closer match up though, the Avalanche losing a close one in the end 4 to 3. 'Top Gunner' Crawford with two goals, both of them assisted by

The Novice Avalanche played in Dewberry this past Sunday. A great team effort in this one, everyone pitched in. Theo 'Long Horn' Loughran was between the pipes, coming up with some huge saves. William 'Billy Bob' Ballas with five goals and four assists, 'Little Angel' Ava Rawlake with three goals and two assists, 'Jesse James' Penner pulling the trigger on his six shooter - six goals and an assist for him, Hudson 'Hammer' Krankowsky cranking in two goals and adding an assist. Avree 'the Aggressor' Lesyk with two goals and two assists, Lennox 'All Out' St. Arnault with a goal and two assists. Hayden Badger with three assists. Luke Osinchuk getting in on the action with a helper too.

And now for the K.A. Campbell quote of the week. "Every day is a great day for hockey." - Mario Lemieux